to non-availability of resources. However, to augment the facilities, a provision has been made for providing semi-automatic cell counter and spectrometer in the pathological laboratory, R. K. Puram-III.

Patenting the wonder drug 'Brahmi'

1149. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that faculty of Ayurveda Researchers in Banaras Hindu University have recently approached the Ministry to explore the possibility of patenting of the product "Brahmi" an Aqurvedic wonder drug;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating whether the Ayurvedic drug "Brahmi" is proposed to be patented; and

(c) if answer be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor stating the steps taken by Government to remove the hurdles in patenting the drug?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA). (a) No formal proposal has been received from the Banaras Hindu University.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Strike by Resident Doctors of Sucheta Kriplani and Kalawati Saran Hospitals

1150. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Resident Doctors of Sucheta Kriplani and Kalawati Saran Hospitals in New Delhi went on a strike recently;

(b) if so, the details of the demands of Doctors which compelled them to resort to strike; and

(c) whether the strike has since been called off and if so, the details of the agreement arrived at between Government and the Doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C SILVERA): (a) Yes Sir

(b) The demands of the Resident Doctors inter-alia include:—

(i) Participation of the representative of RDA in the selection process of Resident Doctors.

(ii) Entrustment of the management of cafetaria to the Resident Doctors.

(iii) Provision of security arrangement in the campus

(iv) Abolition of security deposits for library.

(v) Provision of increased and hygienic water supply etc.

(c) The strike was called off unconditionally.

Report of the Supervisory Team of World Bank of AIDS programme

1151. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank Supervisory Team on the AIDS programme has stressed on stopping clandestinely operating blood banks and for framing guidelines for transfusion of blood in its report submitted recently; and

(b) if so, the decision taken on it and the reaction of Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The observations made by the World Bank supervisory team have been brought to the notice of the Drug Controller of India and the States/UTs for appropriate action.

Supply of out-dated machines in the CGHS DISPENSARY at South Avenue, New Delhi

1152. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that out-dated machines are supplied in th CeGHS Dispensary at Sinth Avenus, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the doctors concerned;

(c) whether Government have received such complaints against other dispensaries also and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what action Government have taken against the officer found responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Massive drive to avoid recurrence of Health Emergencies

1153. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are working on a massive clean-up package to avoid recurrence of health emergencies like the recent outbreak of plague and win back the confidence of the the foreign investors, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) States Governments are being advised to revamp their public health systems for epidemic control and take steps to improve the civic and project infrastructure in keeping with public health requirements. A technical Advisory Committee on Plague has been set up with the task of suggesting measures for avoiding recurrence of outbreaks in future.

Spraying of insecticides in plague-affected areas

1154. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleaeesd to state·

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that appeared on Page 1, Column 2-7 in 'The Statesman' dated 27th September, 1994 under the caption 'Use of D.D.T. Gamaxene may be costly dissembling' wherein it has been stated that spraying of these insecticides in plague-affected areas would not be effective and formulations recommended by World Health Organisation should have been used;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for which these were used and how effective these proved in controlling plague;

(c) whether Government propose to secure more effective insecticide; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) The news report has come to the notice of Government.

(b) to (d) As per available data on susceptibility status of Fleas gamaxena (HCH) is still considered a cost effective anti-flea insecticide. Following the use of HCH, flea density was found to have reduced appreciably.